GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:930
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2002
LIVING CONDITIONS OF PRIESTS GRANTHIS AND IMAMS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the poor living conditions of Priests, Granthis, Imamsetc. of various religious places being run by trusts, societies and samitis etc.; and

(b) if so, the proposal, if any, to ameliorate their lot?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b)The Government is aware that some priests, granthis and imams are living in poor conditions. As per the direction of the Supreme Court a scheme called `Scheme for remuneration to Imams and Muazzins, 1995` was approved by the Central Wakf Council on 22.12.1995. The responsibility for implementation of this scheme is on the Wakf Boards of the States concerned. The appropriate Board or Wakf may determine quantum of remuneration of various categories of Imams taking into account qualification of Imam, income from mosques, whether imam is full time or part time or honorary, etc.